

May 29, 2015

Dear AMD Restoration Colleague:

In 2011, the Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) announced a reorganization that included significant changes to their water programs. As a result, the Bureau of Conservation and Restoration (BCR) was formed. This Bureau's mission is to implement programs that will ultimately result in removing waters from the impaired waters list or at least significantly improve ecological quality.

The BCR consists of two divisions: one addressing agricultural issues, various Chesapeake Bay programs and conservation district support, and the other addressing abandoned mine drainage (AMD). Prior to the reorganization, the AMD program had been a part of the Bureau of Abandoned Mine Reclamation (BAMR). The reorganization split the AMD program and the land reclamation program so that each could focus on specific areas of AML/AMD issues. The BAMR now focuses their attention on the reclamation of abandoned mine sites which have human health and safety concerns. The BCR focuses on water and cleaning up Pennsylvania's water and waterways. While both Bureaus have different primary areas of focus, they still remain linked in implementing their respective programs.

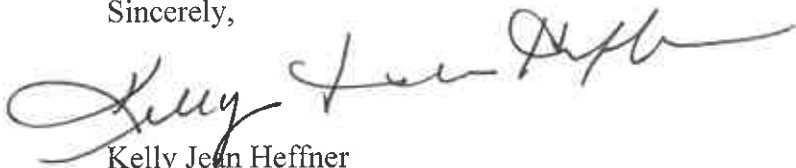
Stakeholder input is a valuable component to determining the effectiveness of the reorganization and ways to improve effectiveness in the future. Please take time to complete the attached questionnaire and feel free to add comments you believe are relevant to the evaluation.

This questionnaire is an online fillable form, but will then need to be submitted by either saving or scanning the completed document and sending it via e-mail to Tammy Young at tammyoung@pa.gov or by printing and sending a hard copy to DEP-BCR, P.O. Box 8555, Harrisburg, PA 17105-8555.

If you have any questions, you may contact Tammy at 717.772.5648. DEP will accept completed forms through June 30, 2015.

Thank you for your participation.

Sincerely,



Kelly Jean Heffner
Deputy Secretary

AMD Program Questionnaire

Category 1: Reorganization Effectiveness

1. It has taken some time for the BCR to become fully staffed and ready to deliver program services. Since 2013, how would you characterize program service delivery (AMD technology, evaluation, assessment, project funding, etc.)?

Poor and Non-Responsive

Adequate

Excellent and Cooperative

Explain:

2. How has funding availability for AMD projects changed since the creation of the BCR?

Fewer Opportunities

Same

More Opportunities

Explain:

3. Has the 2011 reorganization and creation of the BCR provided more, less, or the same opportunities for AMD project collaboration?

- Fewer Opportunities
- Same
- More Opportunities

Explain:

4. Are you aware of the BCR mission and goals?

- Yes
- No

If yes, do you agree with the ultimate mission of restoring polluted streams and lakes so that they can be removed from the impaired waters list (a.k.a. "Get Dirty water off the Dirty waters List) or do you thing the mission should be changed? http://www.portal.state.pa.us/portal/server.pt/community/watershed_management/10593

- Agree
- Change

Explain:

5. Describe the working relationship between your organization and the BCR.

- Poor and Non-Collaborative
- Good and Constructive
- Excellent and Highly Collaborative

Explain:

6. Describe the frequency of your interactions with the BCR.

- Non-Existent
- Occasional
- Very Frequent

7. Have you received funding from the BCR or DEP for AMD project work? Yes or no.

- Yes
- No

If yes, describe your experience with the funding process.

- Below Expectations
- As Expected
- Better Than Expected

Explain and offer any recommendations for improving the funding process:

8. The BCR's approach in selecting projects is to prioritize funding to achieve the most sustainable water quality improvement for the most reasonable cost. Describe BCR's success in achieving this approach.

Unsuccessful

Moderately Successful

Successful

Explain and offer any recommendations for improvement:

Category 2: AMD Program Policy Input

1. How important is the development of some type of funding source to address long-term operation and maintenance (O&M) of AMD treatment systems?

- Not Important
- Seems Important
- Absolutely Critical

Explain any recommendations you have in addressing this program element:

2. Should AMD set-aside funding be used for long-term O&M?

- Yes
- No

Describe any recommendations for alternative long-term funding sources:

3. What 3 factors are most important in determining priorities for using state and federal AMD funding? Please list in decreasing order of importance with "1" being most important.

1)

2)

3)

4. What 3 factors are most important in determining AMD project priorities? Please list in decreasing order of importance with "1" being most important.

1)

2)

3)